



SCOTTISH GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

An ESRC Doctoral Training Centre

Advanced Training Event for Doctoral Students
(CRCEES, University of Glasgow, CASAW, University of Edinburgh)

Tuesday, 20th March 2012

University of Glasgow, Southpark Terrace 15, Turnbull Hall (301)

Ethical and Methodological Issues in Area Studies

This event builds on the recently established LBAS (Language-based areas studies) Pathway as part of the ESRC Doctoral Training Centre initiative. It aims to facilitate deepening linkages between Glasgow and Edinburgh as the two main institutions involved in the LBAS DTC Pathway, bringing together insights from Russian, Central and East European, and Arabic Studies.

Programme outline

9.15-9.45: Registration and coffee

9.45-10.15: Welcome: Professor Richard Berry (CRCEES) and Professor Marilyn Booth (CASAW)

**10.15-12.30 ‘Addressing Ethical Questions and Concerns in Area Studies’:
Dr Rosie Read (University of Bournemouth) and Dr Michelle Obeid (CASAW/University of Manchester)**

The aim of the session is to address questions related to the ethical questions and concerns we face which relate specifically to doing area studies research. Rosie Read and Michelle Obeid will give an introductory presentation, which will draw on their own experiences of carrying out research in the Czech Republic and Middle East, but which will pose broader questions and concerns.

Following the presentation, students will break out into small groups where they will discuss a number of case studies/questions, drawing on their own perspectives and experiences (**coffee will be available at 11.15**).

12.30-1.30: Lunch

1.30-3.30: ‘Conceptual and Methodological Issues in Cross-Cultural Research’

Presenters:

Dr Paul Jordan (University of Cardiff)

Zuleykha Mail Zada (University of Glasgow)

Liam O’Shea (University of St. Andrews)

Jehan Saleh (University of Edinburgh)

The aim of this session is to discuss both conceptual and methodological issues which arise in the course of cross-cultural research, and to explore how approaches, methods and concepts translate across cultures, or not. The session will be focussed around presentations from postgraduate students, at different stages of their research [e.g. first year; post-fieldwork, completed]. The students will address questions related to conceptual and methodological challenges in area studies. The presentations will be followed by a general discussion involving all students.

3.30-4.00: Coffee

4.00-5.30: ‘Getting published’: contributions from Professor Marilyn Booth (CASA) and Ammon Cheskin (CEES)

This session, led by an academic and a postgraduate student, will discuss the opportunities for and challenges faced in ‘getting published’. The presentations will be followed by a question and answer session involving all students.

5.30-7.00: Wine reception and discussion ‘Everyday dilemmas of doing fieldwork and finding solutions’ (venue: CEES Seminar room, 8 Lilybank Gardens)

The concluding session will adopt a ‘storytelling’ approach, where students and academic staff will share experiences and swap stories of the dilemmas and problems faced when doing fieldwork, and how practical solutions may be found. The aim of the session is to provide an informal environment in which students, undertaking area studies doctoral research, feel comfortable to share their experiences and concerns about doing fieldwork.

7.30 Evening meal at a local restaurant